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VOLUME XXXIV NOVEMBER, 1935 NUMBER 8

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Mr. McCune was born in Chosen and spent many years there. He majored in geography and geology at the College of Wooster and served as assistant in the department for three years. At present he is continuing his graduate work at the University of Syracuse.

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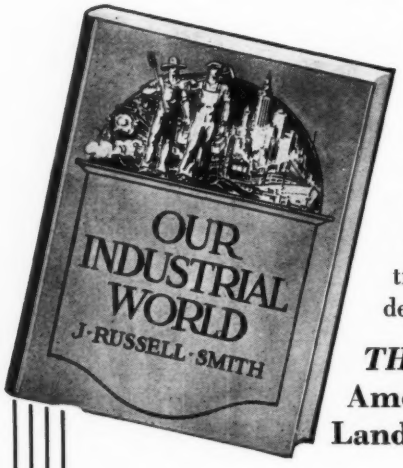
By J. Russell Smith, Ph.D., Sc.D., Columbia University



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VOLUME XXXIV NOVEMBER, 1935 NUMBER 8

CHOSEN, JAPAN'S CONTINENTAL POSSESSION*

SHANNON MCCUNE
College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio

At the present time, altho the world is vitally interested in Oriental affairs, many people lack an understanding of the geography of the Far East. As the Japanese gain more and more territory upon the continent of Asia, Chosen, the country which they first acquired, will be found worthy of geographic study. The geography of this country, with special attention to the changes wrought by the Japanese, can perhaps tell us what to expect in the future for this new empire which Japan is carving out for itself in the Far East.

THE LAND

The influence of physical geographic factors has been great on Chosen. For example, the name commonly used for Chosen is Korea, an old name which means "High Mountains and Sparkling Streams." The country, a peninsula extending south from Manchoukuo some five hundred miles, is equal to the state of Minnesota in area. The coast-line, very irregular on the west and south and relatively smooth on the east, extends more than ten thousand miles, including more than a thousand islands.

Mountains. The peninsula is dominated by a range traversing the country from north to south, lying to the east of the center and running roughly parallel to the east coast. This mountain system, the backbone of the country, forms the watershed of the peninsula. It is over six thousand feet in altitude in some sections, descending steeply to the east and more gently to the west. In the northern portion this axial range throws off so many lateral ranges and spurs to the west, that the country is broken up into a chaos of corrugated and precipitous hills and steep-sided valleys. A narrow

* Prepared under the direction of and with the assistance of Dr. Karl Ver Steeg, College of Wooster.

strip on the east, running between the mountains and the sea, is cut up by many short streams draining the area. Further south the predominant range fans out, some branches running to the west and south with the same effect in a lesser degree as in the north. There are no plains deserving of the name and much of the land is in slope.

Rivers. Except for the Tumen River on the northern boundary, the rivers on the eastern side of the main range are short. In the

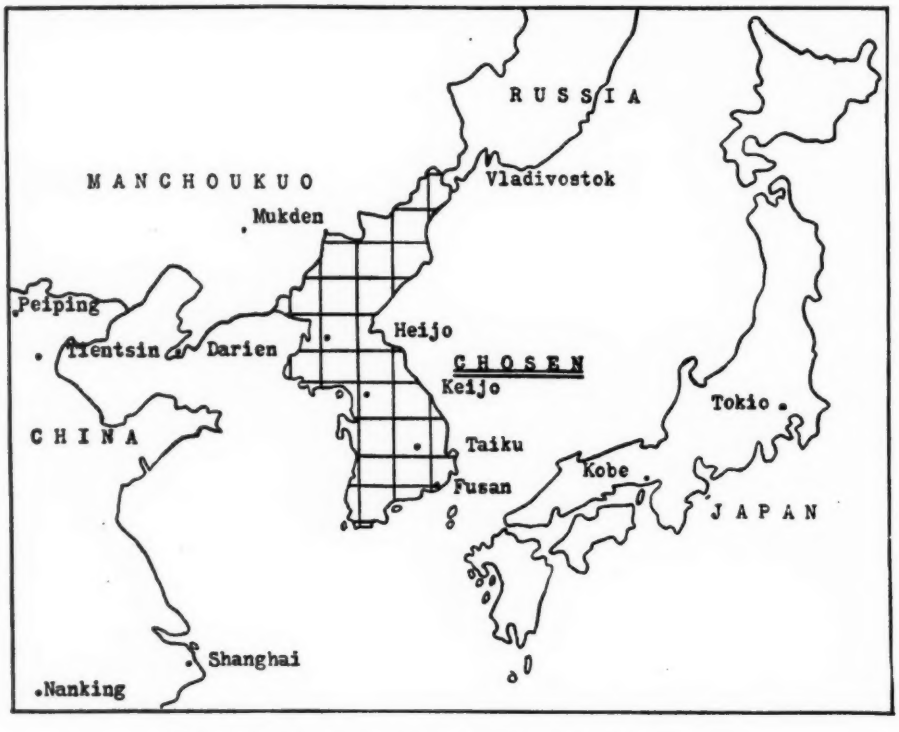

FIG. 1. Chosen in its strategic position in the Far East

west and south the rivers, such as the Yalu, Daido, Kan, Kin, and Rakuto, are much larger and longer, having large drainage basins and fertile valleys. In general the rivers of Chosen are swift and their valleys are narrow. There are few natural lakes and few regions which are not well drained. The larger streams, influenced in their lower courses by the tides from the sea, are navigable for considerable distances by junks and rafts. There are other streams which are very important to the people who live beside them, whose crops they water, and whose produce they carry to market. There

are others which furnish such beauty and inspiration that the people may well class them with the mountains when describing their land.

Climate. Chosen has a modified continental type of climate. In the northern interior the continental character is more pronounced. The country is under the modified influence of the monsoons, varied by the passing of extra-tropical cyclones originating in China. Typhoons occasionally touch the southern coasts. The temperature range is from 104° F. to —43° F. with a mean temperature of 57° F. on the southern coasts and 38° F. in the northern interior.[1] The rainy season, coming in July and August, due to the monsoon conditions, and important for the rice culture, is an important feature of the climate. The average yearly rainfall is 36.6 inches, 60 per cent falling during the short rainy season. Altho of inestimable value for crops, these rains result in floods, causing much damage.

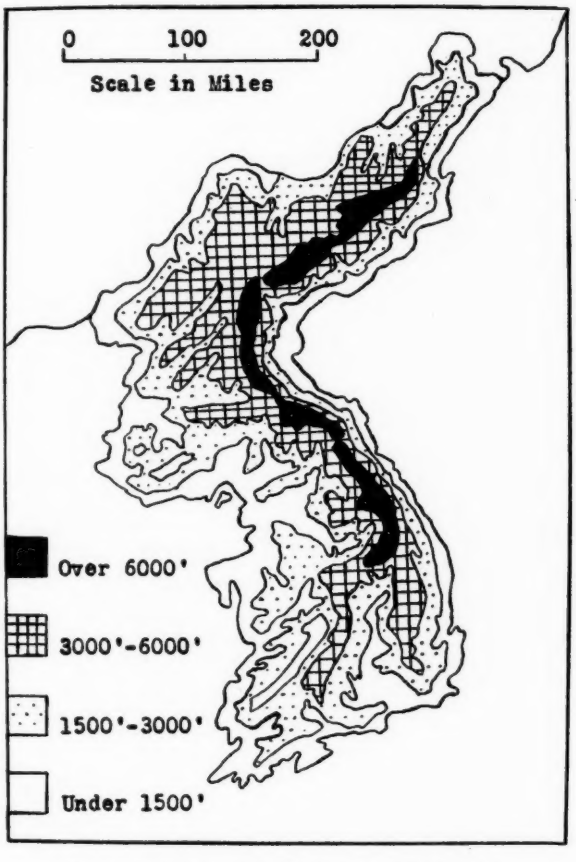

FIG. 2. Relief map of Chosen (Adapted from Stamp's Asia)

Forests. Impressed by the mountains of Chosen, the early French missionaries likened the land to a sea in a heavy gale. It is little wonder, for with little vegetation covering the land, the bare mountains were very noticeable. Altho 71 per cent of the area is suitable forest land, only 56 per cent is

[1] Most of the statistics were taken for this paper from governmental sources as given in the "Annual Reports" of 1911 to 1933.

in trees. The deforested part of the country is the more populated section, due to the very pressing economic need for fuel and timber. Since the former neglect and mismanagement have been in part remedied by the present stringent governmental regulations and enforcement, the forest areas are slowly increasing in size. A great amount of reforestation, sponsored by the Japanese, has resulted in the planting of about four billion trees on over three million acres.

Mineral Resources. The land, being rich in mineral resources, is valuable in filling Japan's needs. The most important, especially at

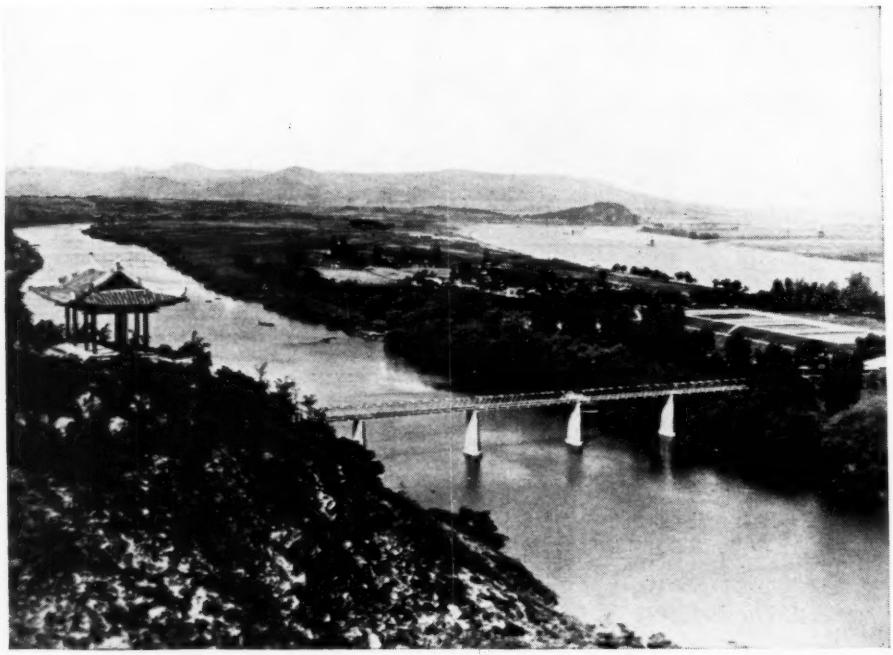

FIG. 3. The Daido River near Heijo. An example of the old and the new in Chosen with an ancient pavilion in the foreground and a modern waterworks and bridge in the center

the present, is the gold, occurring in the formation of "Grey Gneiss" of Pre-Cambrian age. This is mined mainly by American and European companies who gained concessions from the Korean king, and now work them under difficulties due to Japanese interference. Coal, used mainly for naval purposes, occurs mainly in veins of dusty anthracite near Heijo. Not being a coking coal, it is not suitable for the smelting of iron ore, which occurs in early Paleozoic deposits of magnetite, hematite, and limonite. Most of the iron ore, mined by Japanese companies, substantially aided by

government subsidies, is shipped to Japan for industrial uses. Silver, copper, and graphite are among the minor minerals. The total value of the mining output for 1932 was 33,747,000 yen, of which 61 per cent is gold, 17.7 per cent coal, and 17.4 per cent iron. (One yen at par is equal to fifty cents but at present fluctuates around thirty cents.)

The People

Race. The people of Chosen are for the most part Koreans, a distinct class of the Mongolian people, similar to the Chinese and Japanese. The average stature of the Korean, five feet, six inches, is midway between the Japanese and northern Chinese, those in the north of Korea being taller than those in the south.

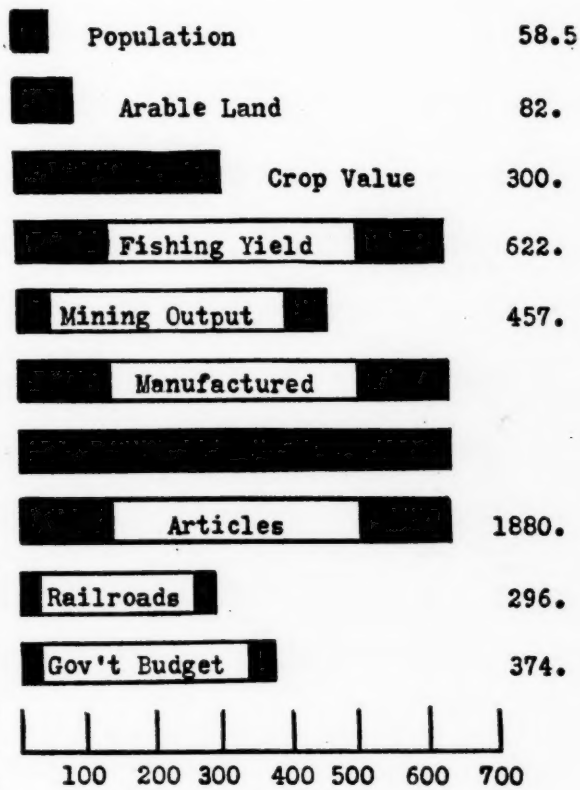

Fig. 4. Significant percentage increases in Chosen between 1910 and 1932

History. Altho there are legendary tales dating back to 2333 B.C., the definite beginning of Korean civilization is 1122 B.C. when Kija, a Chinese sage, with a group of followers, immigrated to northern Korea, and founded a nation among the tribes there. This immigration of Chinese refugees, both from the west and north, continued, binding Korea still more closely to China. The civilization of the Koreans is due to the Chinese influence which was in turn passed on by the Koreans to the Japanese. There were many tribes and kingdoms but finally in 935 A.D. the land was united under one ruler. Even after the uni-

fication the history was not peaceful for in 1011 the Tartars, and later the Mongols under Kublai Khan, invaded the country. The Japanese, under Hideyoshi, endeavoring to attack China in 1592, were stopped in the peninsula with frightful effects on the Koreans. The people were again subjected to an invasion from the other side in 1640 when the Manchus were gaining control of China.

With the realization that much of their misery had been caused by the aggression of their neighbors, the Koreans wrapped themselves in a cloak of self-isolation and thus for 230 years, Korea was the "Hermit Nation." But instead of benefiting and growing stronger the internal affairs were not peaceful and the advance of civilization was halted. A hereditary party system based on party loyalty instead of national patriotism was the dominating factor in the life of the nation. Thus in the nineteenth century when the other Far Eastern nations were being opened to foreign influence and exploitation, the "Land of the Morning Calm" was almost untouched. Finally the pressure became too great and in 1876 Chosen, not able to withstand longer, was opened to foreign nations. The country was so weakened from party strife and isolation that it seemed inevitable it should come under the domination of some outside nation. Japan, that nation of imitators, adopting Western imperialistic methods and fighting two wars, finally declared a protectorate over Chosen in 1905, extending it to annexation in 1910.

It was natural that the Koreans should be restive under this imperialistic policy and the methods which accompanied it. The extraordinary Pacificistic Independence Movement of 1919, stirred up by the harsh military rule, resulted in various reforms in the government, but the lot of the Korean is still a hard one. The government, entirely under Japanese control, has brought about great changes. Altho the government is doing much to benefit the country it is not doing enough for the benefit of the Koreans. There is little opportunity for local autonomy and the expenses have increased so that the budget of 1933 called for an expenditure of 231,000,000 yen. The government is interested in every phase of human life and endeavor. Strict regulation of the press, schools, and meetings do not allow the spread of anti-Japanese criticism.

Population. An ancient proverb refers to the nation as "The Twenty Million Brothers" but it was not until recently that this was true; in 1932 the population totalled 20,600,000 persons. One fortieth of these were Japanese and one in every thousand was a Chinese. The population, growing at the rate of three hundred thousand a

year, is beginning to present a serious problem. An immigration of 350,000 Japanese has been counteracted by the emmigration of over a million Koreans, mainly to Manchoukuo. The density of population, varying with different sections, averages 237 persons a square mile.

Characteristics. It is difficult to judge the character of the individuals of a racial stock by contact with a relatively few members of it. One authority, Dr. H. A. Rhodes in his "History of the Korea Mission," has summed up their character thus: "To those who know them best, the Koreans are a likeable people. Some Koreans are lazy, shiftless, uncouth, but the great majority are industrious, kind-hearted, polite, courteous, and capable. They are sociable, full of fun, and are born actors. They hold their tempers better than Westerners do, but when they go to pieces, they go all over. They are reserved, lack frankness, and are often hard to understand. They are emotional and as one of their own leaders says, 'they do not assume responsibility well.' They do not fear to go into debt. But, of course, that is speaking generally. There are many individual Koreans who are models of the best. Generations of home training in which the boys of the family have been honoured and pampered, has tended to spoil the Korean man, but the Korean woman is a model of faithfulness, industry, and forbearance."

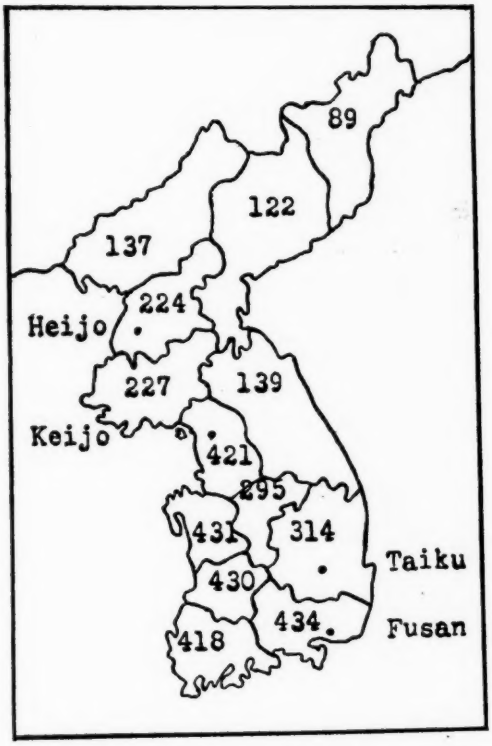

FIG. 5. The four important cities and the thirteen provinces of Chosen with their population densities a square mile for 1932.

Language. The Korean language, altho distinct from the Chinese and Japanese, is of the Turanian group and is polysyllabic. There is an alphabet used for ordinary writing but the higher and more official forms of writings use the Chinese ideograms, which the

Koreans pronounce differently than either the Chinese or the Japanese. The advent of scientific and Japanese terminology has changed the language and the vocabulary greatly. The Japanese language is used officially and taught extensively so that it is becoming widespread.

Habits and Customs. The modern day Chosen is vastly different than that of the days of seclusion, altho only one generation removed. The old Korean traditions, originated and fostered in the centuries of seclusion, have been broken down, and there has been no attempt to set up moral codes to take their place, so that the Koreans are morally degenerating rapidly. The natives for the most part still live in thatched or tiled roofed, mud-walled houses with heated floors, usually consisting of two rooms, one of which is the dirt-floored kitchen. The houses are clustered in small groups rather than scattered about among the fields.

FIG. 6. A typical farm-house of Chosen

The Koreans still dress in white, a sign of mourning, but the top-knot which was the pride and joy of every man and his mark of manhood, is fast disappearing. The staple diet is rice for the well-to-do and millet for the poorer classes; "Kimchi," a very peppery pickle, is an essential part of every meal. Marriages which are arranged by the parents are still in the majority. The formerly rigid class distinctions have been broken down in many cases and the younger generation is less deferential to their elders. The Korean holidays and old burial customs are less observed. Altho the common person would say that he had no religion, his everyday life is influenced by belief in spirits of various kinds, and by contacts with Confucianism and Buddhism. Christianity is enjoying a rapid growth.

OCCUPATIONS

Agriculture. The most important occupation is agriculture, about four-fifths of the people being engaged in agricultural pur-

suits. Many changes have taken place in this field since Japanese occupation and affect almost the entire population. In 1910 only 11 per cent of the total area of 86,000 square miles was cultivated or arable, but the government put on a series of programs for the reclamation and irrigation of agricultural lands so that in 1932, 20 per cent of the land was under cultivation, averaging about 3.8 acres a family, or roughly half an acre per capita. The soil is not very fertile but yields fairly well with careful attention. One of the major problems facing Chosen is the rejuvenation of worn out soils. The land is divided into small plots of which one-third are paddy fields and the rest dry fields.

Altho the work is done almost entirely by Koreans, Japanese have gained possession of a large portion of the lands. The farmers, now in a desperate economic position, are steadily being reduced to a pitiful condition. In 1928, according to the Brunner Report, 75 per cent of the farmers were renting all or part of their land, and paying rents which in some regions amounted to almost four-fifths of their crop income. In the south of Chosen only 30 per cent of the owner-cultivators made a profit, while 96 per cent of the tenant farmers closed the year with a deficit. More than 90 per cent of the farmers in southern Chosen are in debt for an amount exceeding their annual income and pay an average of 36 per cent interest.

In addition to the bad economic conditions the methods of farming are so poor as to make the picture of agriculture a very black one. The work is carried on by the hand labor of the farmer and his family, altho the well-to-do use oxen. Mechanical appliances of more than the most simple nature are rarely used altho their usage is growing among the classes which can afford them. Much of the farmer's time is spent in attempting to gather fuel from the hills for the cold winters he must undergo.

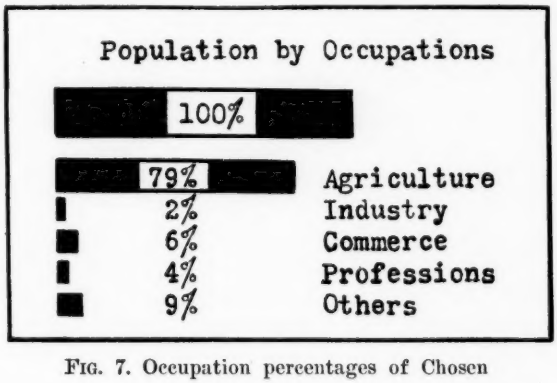

FIG. 7. Occupation percentages of Chosen

In 1932 the total crop value was 829,165,000 yen. The main crop, rice, much of which is exported to Japan, occupies 37 per cent of the cultivated land. Other important crops are barley, wheat, soya

bean, and millet, which is grown to furnish a cheap food for those who sell the rice they raise. Corn, recently introduced, has an industrial outlet at the American-built factory of the Corn Products Company at Heijo. Cotton raising is being fostered by the Japanese to supply some of their great demand. The farmer also carries on allied occupations such as stock breeding and the raising and care of silk worms.

The government has done much to aid agriculture. As to whether or not it has been an aid to the Koreans is a moot question. Many irrigation projects, subsidized by the government, and improved methods of farming have increased production and crop values. Rural education with farmer's institutes, special lectures, and model farms, is being carried on with good results.

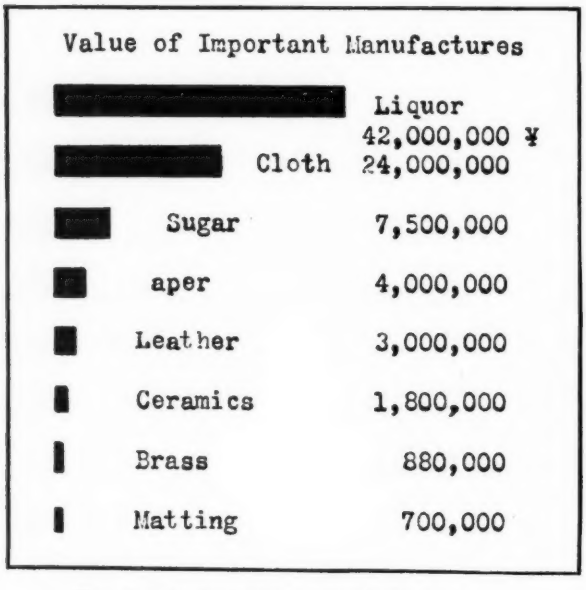

FIG. 8. The important manufactures of Chosen

Fisheries. In the fisheries, improvements have been introduced by the Japanese into boats, gear, and methods so that the value of yield in 1931 was 77,000,000 yen. Strict regulation by the government, immigration of skilled Japanese fishermen, and forming of mutual aid associations have been factors in this increase.

Manufacturing. In the days of seclusion little manufacturing was carried on with the exception of simple home industries. With the opening of Chosen, manufacturing received its impetus, and especially since the World War has had tremendous growth. An abundance of labor and raw materials makes Chosen well adapted for manufacturing, and has corrected an unfavorable trade balance. The capital for these manufacturing enterprises has been largely supplied by the Japanese and has benefited them to a greater extent than the Koreans. It is a sad corollary of Japanese rule that

the manufacturing of liquor has increased 5580 per cent since 1911, leading the other products such as cloth, sugar, paper, leather, ceramics, brass, and wangol matting, a special Korean manufacture, by a considerable margin.

Commerce. The custom from ancient times has been for the Koreans to hold markets in different towns thruout the peninsula. These markets are held usually every fifth day altho in some places it has developed into a continuous affair. To these fairs come the people from all the neighboring small villages and clusters of farms and get their supplies of food, clothing, and cattle. The markets

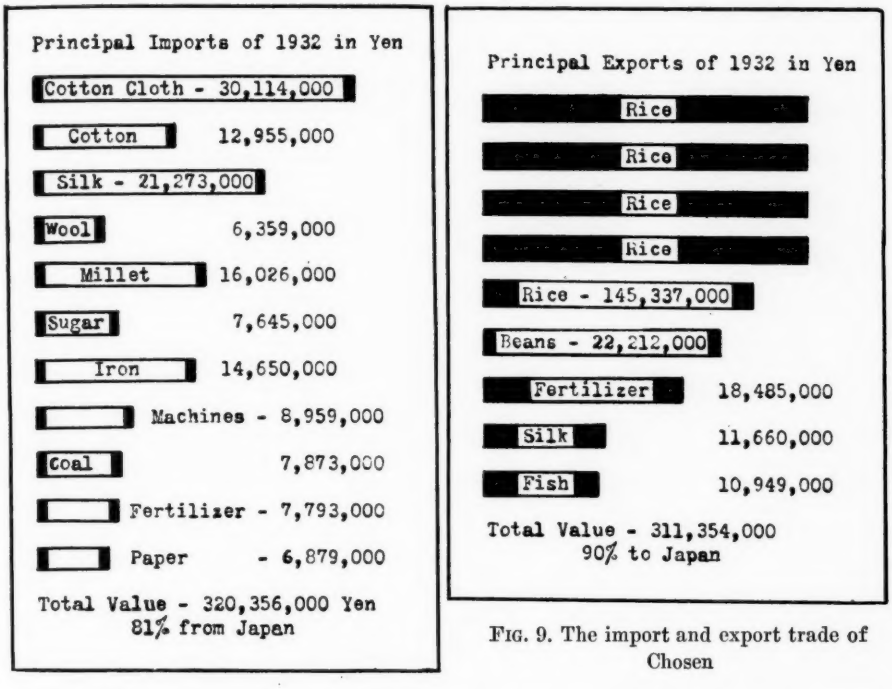

FIG. 9. The import and export trade of Chosen

carry the bulk of the internal trade and in 1932 there were more than 1,400 markets with an annual business of over 158,000,000 yen. These markets are closely regulated by the government and are slowly giving way to the more advanced forms of doing business such as shops and business sections in the larger cities.

The self-isolation of Korea naturally hampered the nation from being a great trading nation and the growth of foreign trade has been largely within recent times, especially since the introduction of Japanese capital and modern transportation facilities. Situated as it is among the populous countries of the Far East it should in

time develop into a large trading nation. The import trade has been constantly increasing due to opening of the country and the need of manufactured articles which was the natural result. The export trade, mainly raw materials, was in the early days of Japanese influence small in comparison with the imports but this adverse balance has been improved and now they are nearly equal.

FIG. 10. A typical coulee with his jigee

Transportation. The transportation facilities of isolated Chosen were very poor in the days when human labor was cheap and almost all transportation was done by coulees carrying on their backs a frame-work of wood (a "jigee"). Persons were carried in sedan chairs or on small Korean ponies, and two wheeled carts, pulled by oxen over poor roads, transported the heavier loads. Various hindrances such as fogs, tides, and Japanese pirates did not allow shipping facilities to be well developed.

With the opening of Chosen ports and harbors were improved and a coastwise and Far Eastern trade of extensive volume has sprung up. Railroads, which the government either owns or controls, have been built despite adverse topographic conditions and connect the main sections of the peninsula, extending 2,870 miles in 1933. Roads have been built to parallel the railroads or to connect more inaccessible regions. In 1933 there were 12,900 miles of roads which were used mainly by oxcarts, pedestrians, and bicyclists, altho automobile bus services have increased rapidly. A government-subsidized aviation company runs a regular daily service for mail, freight, and passengers the length of the peninsula with air connections to Japan and Manchoukuo.

Cities. There has been a growth of cities in connection with the opening of the country and the improved transportation facilities. The city populations have greater percentages of Japanese than one would ordinarily expect since the Japanese are inclined to settle in the cities rather than carry on agriculture. Kaijo, or Seoul, the beautiful capital city, is by far the largest and most important city in the peninsula with a population in 1932 of 374,000 persons. The city is an odd mixture of the old and the new and thru its modernization has lost much of its charm. Fusan, the southern port, with fine harbor facilities, is second in size with a population of 148,156. Thru the ages it has been the main point for communication and intercourse with Japan. Heijo, or Pyeng Yang, a former capital in the north has 145,455 persons, and aided by natural surroundings and resources, is undergoing rapid development into the industrial center of the peninsula. Taiku in the south has a population of 103,511, and is prominent as a distributing point for the great agricultural produce of the rich south.

Conclusions

As for the future of Chosen one's conclusions must be based on probabilities rather than facts. The economic foundations of the country are becoming increasingly unstable with the Japanese gaining economic domination equivalent to their political position. The political outlook is not encouraging for the Koreans, especially now that they are no longer on the frontier but are an integral part of the Japanese Empire. It is clear that great benefit to the country has been accomplished thru the Japanese rule. Yet it is the Japanese who have, in the majority, gained the profits coming from this expansion while few of the Koreans have been benefited and many are in a worse state. As to whether or not this will continue in Korea and will be extended into Manchoukuo and Northern China only time will reveal, but even so, Chosen in its strategic military and economic position will increase in importance thru the years and will continue to attract the attention of all persons interested in Far Eastern and world geography.

MEXICO: RURAL LIFE IN THE NORTHEASTERN COASTAL PLAIN

BEN F. LEMERT AND ROSE V. LEMERT
Duke University

THE REGION

From Presidio de San Vicente on the Rio Grande, the Sierra Madre Oriental Mountains extend in a southeasterly direction for more than eight hundred miles. To the west lies the high and dry Mexican plateau. To the east are the foothills or piedmont of the Sierra Madre Oriental gradually sloping off into a coastal plain which narrows as it stretches southward.

East of the mountains the land constitutes a desert from the Rio Grande as far south as Monterrey. Mesquite and cactus are the chief native plants. A few cattle and a scanty population occupy the land.

Monterrey, a crossing point where highways and railroads from the interior pass thru the mountains to the eastern lowlands, marks one end of a dividing line between the northern arid region and the southern region of productivity.

SOUTH OF MONTERREY

Vegetation and Climate. As one travels southward from Monterrey the change of scenery is abrupt. The entrance into the northern limits of the city is from a land of drought. The exit from the southern edge of the city opens upon a land where green vegetation greets the eye on all sides. To the west rise the steep slopes of the Sierra Madre Oriental. The road leads thru broad valleys with scattered hills and mesas to the east. The vegetation resembles that which is seen in areas of broad-leafed forests. Close examination shows that much of it is of a thorny nature, however. This is due to the fact that rainfall is never abundant. Five to ten inches of moisture are received between November and April: twenty to thirty inches between April and November. The effect of this rainfall is lessened by the intensity of evaporation resulting from continuous warm temperature. The farmers will inform you they never know when it is going to rain, but they do not think it is too dry for crops. If they raise plants which need much water, they irrigate. The mountains to the west cause the moisture-laden winds from the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico to rise as they blow over the land. In

rising these air currents become cooler, cannot hold as much moisture as formerly and precipitate it in the form of rain upon the mountain slopes. Cool currents of air from the mountains are continually coming in contact with warm currents of air from the Gulf causing scattered drops of water to fall from the skies even tho the day is clear or the night star-decked. Many streams flowing from the mountains toward the coast carry water to the farmers. The government has built dams and dug ditches that the farmers, for a small

FIG. 1. A typical hut village

fee, may be able to turn the water onto their fields as they need it. In the vicinity of the streams, early in the morning many people may be seen carrying buckets of water for cooking and drinking. The water has been flowing rapidly eastward all night and is clean and fresh. A few hours later many of the same people may be seen washing clothes in the stream and late in the afternoon the villagers go down to bathe.

Human Activities. South of Monterrey a distance of about seventy-five miles is the town of Montemarelos, the center of an extensive orange producing area. In this district much of the orange production of Mexico is carried on with irrigation. The trees get plenty of water and an abundance of warm sunshine and the oranges are large and sweet.

Continuing southward the number of small farms increases. Many of the people live upon their small plots of ground. Others live in small towns and hut villages much like the people of many European communities, going out to work in the morning and returning in the evening to a common center of habitation.

Living Conditions. Man usually builds his home of materials most

easily available. The Mexicans are no exception. Where vegetation is plentiful, bamboo, reeds, grasses, and sun-baked clay form the building materials. Many of the huts located upon individual farms are roofed with grass, their sidewalls either open-work reeds, sticks and bamboo, or covered with grass interwoven into the framework. Sometimes old boards and boxes are used in the construction of the sidewalls. Frequently the walls are made of sun-dried bricks, the mud having been mixed with grass or straw before drying. Some of

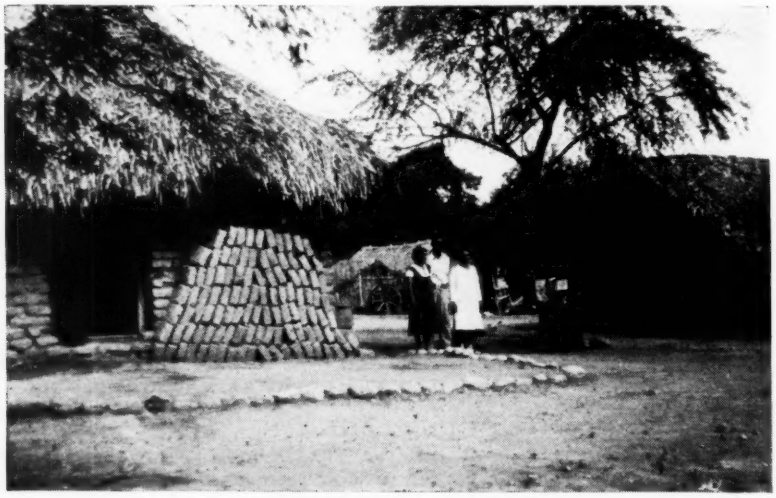

FIG. 2. The home of a middle class farmer. The location is on the foothills of the eastern slopes of the Sierra Madre Oriental, about 125 miles south of Monterrey

the houses have small glass windows. Others have openings for windows with a solid board for closing. The doors are usually wide and made of two sections so that the lower may be closed while the upper part remains open like a window. Some huts have but one opening, the doorway.

The construction of the dwellings in the hut villages resembles that found in the open country tho there are usually one or two better type dwellings. Each village has one or two families superior financially and intellectually to the remainder of the population. These better-class families are usually white people of Spanish descent while the remainder of the population is Indian or mestizo. It is these white people who constitute the nucleus for a middle class among the rural people of Mexico.

A Middle Class Farm

Buildings. At one such hut village, near which we camped for some time, there lived one white man with his wife and two children. He was educated and his children attended school in the town of Linares, twelve miles away. His estate consisted of about one-hundred acres of rich, dark, alluvial soil washed down from the mountains. His dwelling, enclosing four rooms, was built of sundried bricks. The roof was of grass and the house contained a sufficient number of windows, all with glass. The interior of the dwelling was painted white, the floors were of cement and the furnishings were similar to those of a modest country home in the United States.

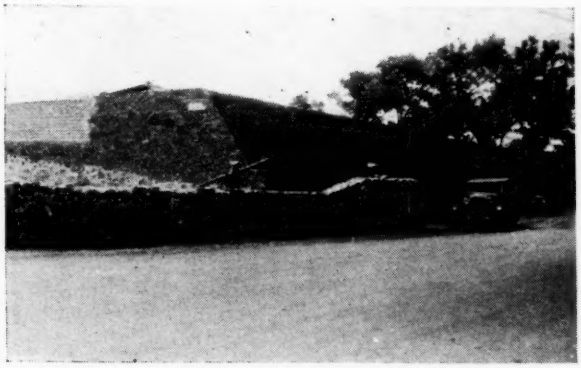

Fig. 3. The exterior view of an hacienda

Products. This farm produced corn, beans, sugar cane, and ajonjoli'. These are the principal crops produced in this section which is a hundred miles south of Monterrey. In addition to his crop land, the farmer had large, clean, shady hog pens in which he raised Duroc hogs. His Jersey cattle produced milk and meat. Two horses were for riding and for odd jobs about the farm. Many chickens produced a supply of eggs and broilers and a surplus to market in the neighboring city. In the farmer's grass-roofed shed I saw a tractor, a truck, and a popular-priced coupe. The farmer told me he also owned a house in the city, the rent of which increased his income.

Sugar Cane. Of the four crops produced upon this land, the corn and beans served as food for man and beast. The sugar cane and ajonjoli' served as food and supplied a surplus for market. The sugar cane field, 11 acres in extent had been producing about the same amount of sugar each year for twenty-five years without replanting. The farmer owned his own sugar mill, a grass-roofed structure, open at the sides, covering a crusher operated by a Ford motor, evaporating pans, boiling kettles and moulds. During sugar-making it required nine men, easily procurable from the village, to

FIG. 4. This is the corner of the hacienda in which cattle and horses are stabled

FIG. 5. An exterior view of the hacienda showing the living quarters in the corner

FIG. 6. One of the sugar kettles in which cane syrup is reduced to the point where crystallization of the sugar begins

operate the mill. The eleven acres of cane usually produced 8000 kilograms of sugar. This the farmer sold for about 20 pesos ($5.60) for 100 kilograms (220 pounds). His profit amounted to approximately thirty-five per cent.

The process of making sugar is simple. After crushing the cane, the sap is run into a large shallow pan about 15 feet by five feet in size. A wood fire beneath this pan furnishes heat for evaporation of a large part of the water in the cane juice. From this vat the liquid passes into large copper kettles set over holes in the ground. Beneath the kettles are also fires which reduce the liquid to the point at which it begins to solidify. From the kettles the sugar is poured into cone-shaped moulds, each mould capable of holding one-half kilogram (1.1 pounds) of sugar. After these cones are cooled they are wrapped in the leaves of the sugar cane plant and are ready for market. The sugar is dark brown and tastes somewhat like maple sugar. The bagasse left from the sugar making is used for fuel and as fertilizer. The farmer did not refine his sugar beyond this stage because he could not make any greater profit by so doing. Moreover, the people liked this type of sugar better than any other.

Ajonjoli′. The second money crop, ajonjoli′, is an East Indian sesame known in the Malay region as bejin. The seeds of this plant are the valuable part. They resemble flaxseed, tho they are smaller and white in color. The seeds are sown by hand, being planted a pace apart on the sides of furrows one meter apart. The plant grows to a height of two or three meters and resembles a potato plant during early stages of growth. The seed pods are round and about an inch long, containing four compartments with seeds. The seeds are threshed out and pressed for oil, one ton of seeds yielding one-half ton of oil. The left-over part of the seeds is given to the hogs and cattle. The plant stalks are returned to the soil as fertilizer. This is a dry-climate plant in spite of its origin, and does not require irrigation as does the sugar cane. The drier the year the better the production of seeds. The land upon which the plant is grown requires no fertilizer except the returned plant stalks. The farmer, however, rotates his crops in all his fields except the cane field, the rotation being corn, beans and ajonjoli′ in succession. The oil obtained from the seeds is used in cooking. The seeds may be ground and mixed with sugar and eaten raw or cooked, tasting like pumpkin. They may be served without crushing and eaten with milk and sugar as a cereal.

This farmer also planted vegetables. The pumpkins in his corn

field presented a picture similar to that of an American corn patch. Flowers similar to those seen in America were planted around his house. Mail from the north and the south arrived once a day. Taxes on this farm amounted to eight pesos payable every two months, or 48 pesos a year. The owner stated that Mexican farmers feign poverty to keep down taxes as the officials are in the habit of increasing the tax whenever the farmer is discovered to be prospering beyond a certain point.

This farm is not the average for Mexico. It is what Mexicans should seek as their first attainable standard. Of the seventy-five per cent or more of the Mexican people who live on farms few attain this standard of progress. Their standards are far below it. It does present an example of what can be done and shows the valuable crops that could be augmented, given a continuance of stable, progressive government.

HILLSDALE: AN URBAN STUDY OF A SMALL MID-WESTERN TOWN

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The casual observer sees in Hillsdale merely a small, quiet town nestled in a depression between two parallel lines of hills. There are but few features which would differentiate it from numerous nearby small urban centers. A more intensive study fails also to find any peculiar characteristics which would set it apart as being unique. Many other small towns are county seats, possess small colleges, a few light manufacturing plants, and a small trade area of mixed agriculture. Thus in studying one of these, we promote a better understanding not only of the particular example, but, to some extent, of the remainder of the group, of which it is more or less typical. Therefore, Hillsdale, whose actual areal extent renders it an insignificant part of the landscape, receives additional importance when considered in the light of its similarity to other nearby small urban communities.

This town is located in Hillsdale County, which lies somewhat to the east of center in the southern tier of Michigan counties. It is about ninety miles from Detroit and about sixty-five miles from Toledo, Ohio.

Early Circulation in Relation to Landforms

The first settlers of Hillsdale found a band of only about one hundred and fifty Potawatami Indians living in the vicinity. However, numerous mounds and old abandoned camp sites pointed to a

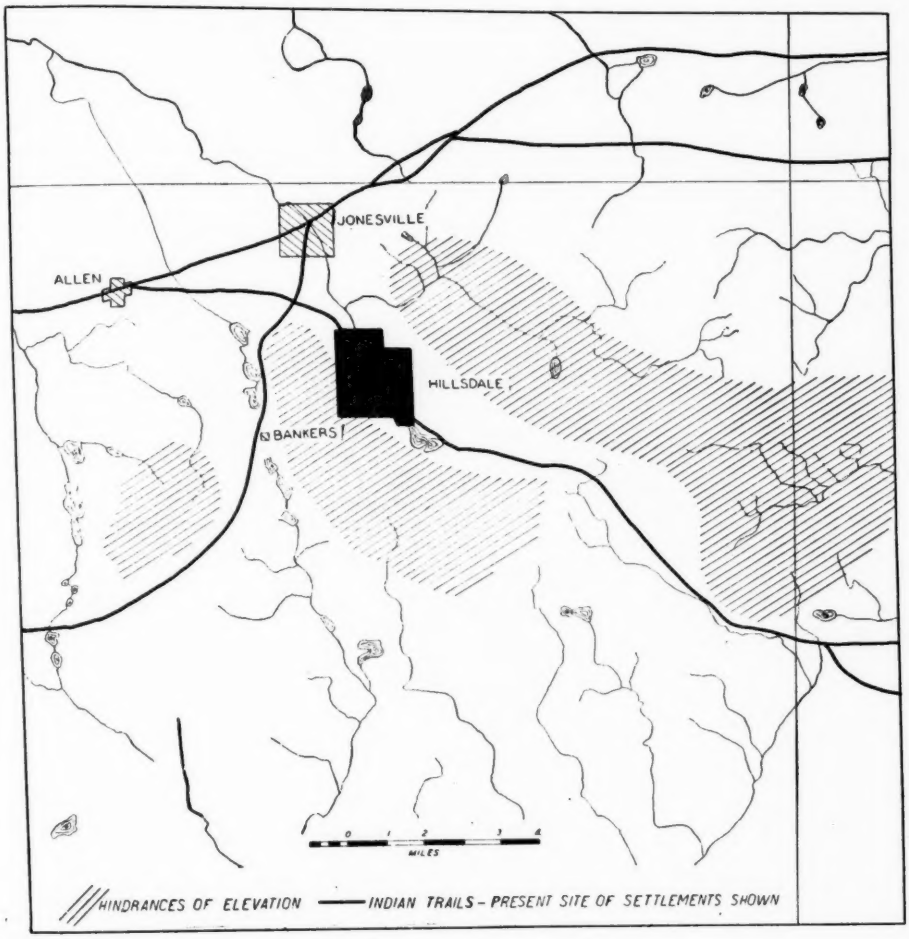

Fig. 1. Early routes of circulation

time when the Indian population had been more numerous.[1] The trails which were used could then be easily traced. They are indicated on Fig. 1. The trails at the northern part of the map are a part of the Indian route from Chicago to Detroit, later occupied by the Chicago Turnpike and at present the approximate location of

[1] W. B. Hinsdale. Archæological Atlas of Michigan. Mich. Handbook Series, No. 4, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1931, p. 21.

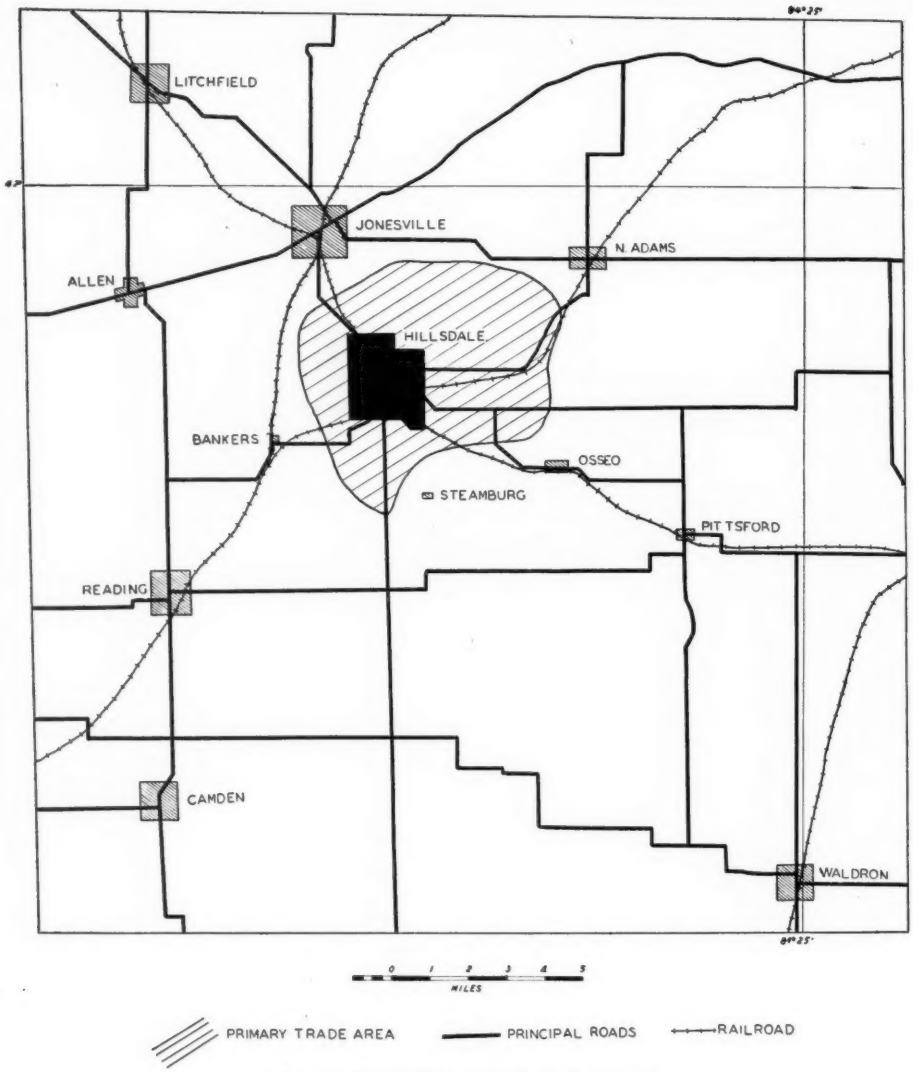

FIG. 2. Present-day routes of circulation

U. S. Route No. 112. Those in the southern part of the map were local trails and seem to have been closely adjusted to the terrain.

The area about Hillsdale is one of glacial deposition. The part represented by the southern third of the map (Fig. 1) consists of a level outwash plain which may be traversed at will, the northern part of till plains, morains and their bordering aprons of outwash. The major features of the terrain are two large glacial drainage channels. One of these channels is now occupied by Hillsdale and the

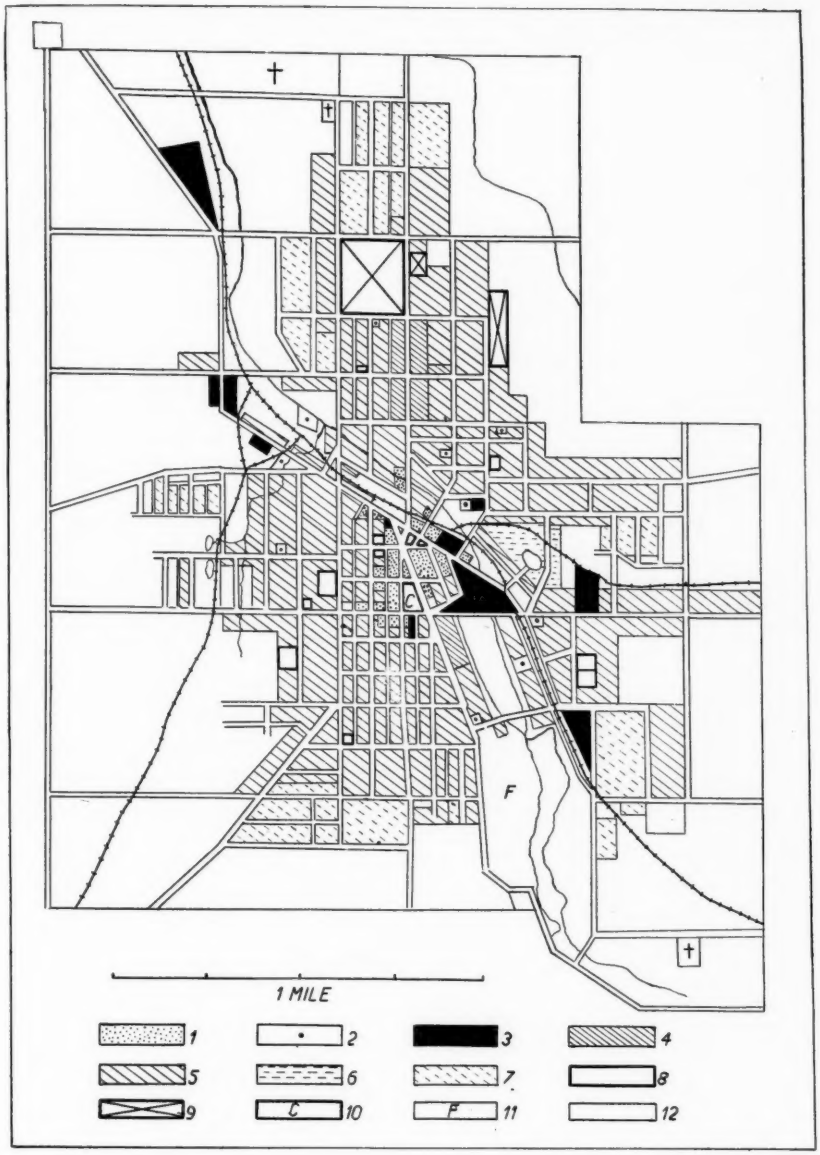

FIG. 3. Functional area map of Hillsdale

Key:

1. Commercial core
2. Retail outside commercial core
3. Manufacturing
4. Superior residence
5. Ordinary residence
6. Inferior residence

Key:

7. Area less than 50 per cent built up
8. Public buildings
9. College buildings
10. Courthouse
11. Fairgrounds
12. Vacant or agricultural land

other by Bankers. Both of these were the locations of local Indian trails which converged upon the larger trail to Detroit or Chicago. Thus Hillsdale, probably unlike many other small trading centers, was not situated at a natural convergence of routes. This natural convergence was occupied by Jonesville and it was not until a road was laid from Hillsdale to Bankers that the town was able to serve the western drainage channel. Even today its trade area extends farther to the east than to the west (See Fig. 2).

History of Settlement

The first log cabin of Hillsdale was erected in 1834.[2] Prior to this the Chicago Turnpike had been surveyed and settlements had been made at both Allen and Jonesville. The settlement of Hillsdale was apparently a part of the population increase of southern Michigan following the opening of the Erie Canal. The location chosen by the first settlers was unfortunately one of poor drainage at what is now the site of the Fairgrounds (See Fig. 3). However they quickly remedied this mistake and, moving north to the first well-drained area, formed the "Hillsdale Company" with the avowed purpose of obtaining the county seat which had been located in Jonesville in 1831.[3] Since then Hillsdale had been settled at a place nearer the center of the county, its early ill-chosen site was corrected, its influence extended by building a road to the west, and in 1843 communication was established between it and the eastern part of the state by the Southern Railroad. In the same year the county seat was moved from Jonesville to Hillsdale.

In 1855 a small Free-Will Baptist college, originally located at Spring Arbor, Michigan, was moved to Hillsdale.[4] During the first term the students numbered 162, and this enrollment has gradually grown to a figure of between four and five hundred.

The growth of population is shown by the graf (Fig. 4). There are no census figures before 1850, but from that date to 1870 the town had a rapid rise in population. After a loss of some hundred people from 1870 to 1880, the town settled down to a more gradual, tho somewhat uneven, increase. Altho the past three decades have all seen an increase in population, each decade's increase has been

[2] Luedder's Historical and Pictorial Directory of Hillsdale, Michigan. Coldwater, Mich., 1923, p. 10.

[3] *Mich. Pioneer Collections*, Vol. 1, 1874-6, p. 168.

[4] S. W. Norton. Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan. *Mich. Pioneer Collections*, Vol. 32, 1902, pp. 452-458.

less than that of the preceding one. The population of Hillsdale appears to be approaching the plateau of maturity where, barring an economic rejuvenation, its height will be reached.[5]

Nowhere in the history of Hillsdale itself can the explanation for the lack of smoothness in the population curve be found. Its successes and failures alike have been small and have wrought but small changes within the structure of the city. Just as the farmer

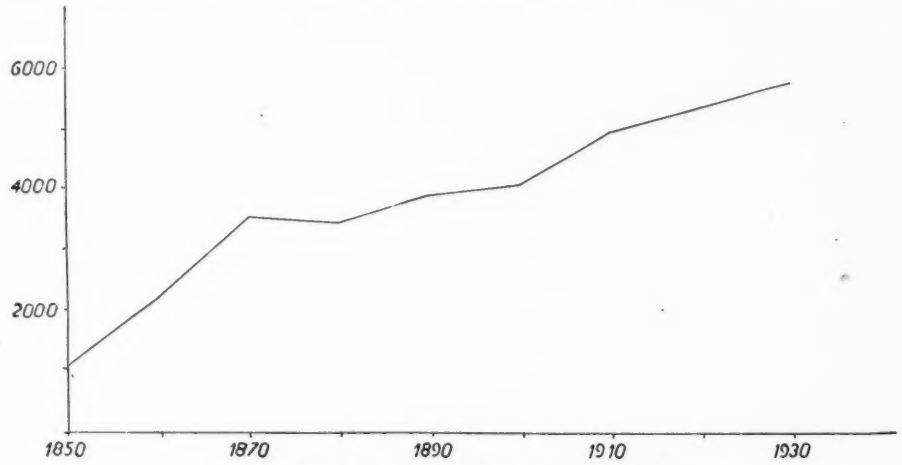

FIG. 4. Graf of population growth of Hillsdale

of the surrounding area experiences neither the failure of the Great Plains farmer during dry years nor yet the success of many a Corn Belt farmer of Illinois, so the city enjoys neither the height of prosperity nor the depths of poverty.

ANALYSIS OF STREET PATTERN

The streets of Hillsdale, like those of many other cities of the old Northwest Territory were originally planned upon a right-angle pattern (See Fig 3). There are, however, certain exceptions to this design. The street directly west of the St. Joseph River, which runs thru the center of the city, roughly parallels the stream, thus avoiding both the crossing of the river and the higher land of the till plain which lies to the northeast of the city, the local portion of which is called "College Hill." This street rudely approximates the old Indian trail and was used by the first white settlers at the present site of the Fairgrounds to reach Jonesville and the Chicago Turnpike. Another street along the railroad east from the river

[5] Raymond Pearl. The Biology of Population Growth. New York, 1925, pp. 1-24.

roughly parallels the first. In this way the poorly drained peat soil of this portion of the river bank is avoided.

In the western part of the southern half of the city is another street which enters diagonally. It was a crosscut to the road running to Bankers and the glacial channel to the west of Hillsdale. The road was developed before the southern part of the city was built up, and later this modification of the street pattern was maintained. These are the major variations of the right-angle pattern. The remainder are for the most part resultant from the difficulty of connecting this pattern with the major variations.

THE FUNCTIONAL AREAS OF THE CITY

Hillsdale performs four separate urban functions, represented by the nuclei of communication, the commercial core; administration, the courthouse; production, the manufacturing sites; and culture, the college. The distribution of these nuclei and of the other land uses within the city is closely allied with the distribution of street patterns and routes of travel. At the convergence of routes, one from the southeast, entirely natural, and the other from the southwest, in part artificial, there grew up the commercial core. Today it stands a mixture of buildings of varying ages, attesting its slow but continuous growth. This growth has, however, always occurred about the point of road convergence. The influence of this convergence has been further strengthened by the location of the railroad since it follows the old glacial channel. The growth of this nucleus has been and will be hampered by the competition of nearby small towns. Another competitor, actual but unseen, is the mail-order house. The importance to the future growth of this nucleus of good roads is too obvious to need discussion. But the same good road which extends the trade area of Hillsdale more than likely also extends the competitive influence of the nearby town. Therefore the ultimate development of this core depends to a large extent upon the initiative of the merchants themselves.

Sharing the position of the commercial core is the political core, the courthouse. Its areal extent has not grown since it was established in 1843. Altho it is relatively unimportant as compared with the commercial core, yet it is important to a city of this size. Even in these days of automobiles, the activities in the courthouse still bring people to town who otherwise would not be there. It is more than probable that, in the days prior to the present development of transportation and its resultant ease of travel, the importance of

the location of the county seat at Hillsdale was even greater than today.

Like the commercial core and the political core, the sites of manufacturing are closely allied with both roads and railroads. Originally their locations with reference to the railroads were of utmost importance, but now, when truck transportation has to a large extent superseded that of rail, their positions are still advantageous, owing to the rough parallelism of both rails and road.

Production in Hillsdale is varied. There are two condenseries, a grist mill, a creamery, a flour mill, a die plant, a broom factory, a factory which makes screen doors, two clothing factories, and a machine shop. All are small but the total employ a considerable part of the city's inhabitants.

The factors which have induced the location of these industries in Hillsdale are low costs of raw materials and of labor.[6] The first applies to the grist mill, creamery, and condenseries exclusively. The wheat for the flour mill is imported. The cost of power in Hillsdale is not exceptionally low since it is derived from coal shipped in by rail. Neither are there any facilities for transportation which are not possessed by nearby competing centers. Labor costs, however, are low. It is doubtless this which has influenced the location of such industries as the machine shops and clothing factories. It is at once apparent that the growth of manufacturing, in the face of a labor supply whose rate of increase as shown by the population figures is declining, must be limited. That this limit may be nearly reached at present seems indicated by the fact that the last two factories which have located at Hillsdale are clothing factories employing women. Earlier established factories employ men. At least it seems safe to assume that under the present economic system the expansion of manufacturing is definitely limited.

The last and perhaps the least important of the nuclei of Hillsdale is the cultural one represented by Hillsdale College. The college is small having an enrollment of only between four and five hundred. Even so the importance to a town of less than six thousand inhabitants of providing necessities for this group must not be overlooked. Unlike the other nuclei, this is not centrally located with respect to the remainder of the town. Rather it occupies a portion of a till plain which rises above the level of the old glacial drainage channel occupied by the larger part of the town. The growth of its enroll-

[6] For a study of locational factors see Alfred Weber. Ueber den Standort der Industrien, Tübingen, 1909.

ment from one hundred and sixty-two to the present figure has been a gradual one. Supported as it is by a small endowment and surrounded on all sides by many other similar small colleges, and also by state-supported institutions, there seems to be nothing which would point to a sudden and considerable increase in numbers, thereby assuming a greater importance in the life of the town. Here, too, the opportunities of growth seem small.

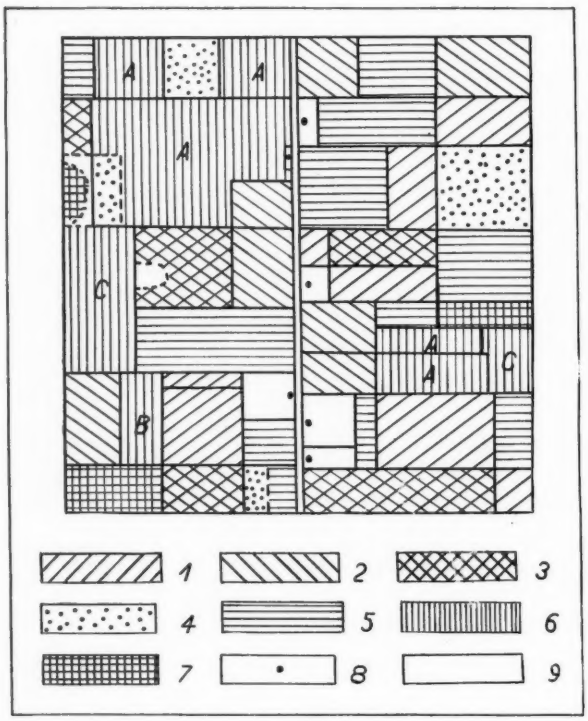

FIG. 5. Type study of Hillsdale's umland, No. 1

Key:
1. Corn
2. Oats
3. Wheat
4. Other grains
5. Hay

Key:
6. Pasture
A. Permanent pasture
B. Woodland pasture
C. Pasture in rotation
7. Woodland
8. Homestead
9. Wasteland

Extending from all sides of the commercial core lie the residence areas. The inferior residence centers about a small body of water, in a kettlehole which is low and has no drainage. Ordinary residence, which occupies most of the residence area, is particularly well developed north and south of the commercial core. Progress to the west is somewhat hampered by the abrupt rise of the edge of the old glacial channel, which is approximately marked by the railroad. At the eastern edge of the glacial channel lies a terrain more rolling than the land surface of the town itself, and this also marks the limit of residence expansion. Scattered thruout the ordinary residence area are churches and schools as well as small grocery stores which serve mainly their immediate neighborhoods.

There are two areas of superior residence one directly south of

the college and the other immediately south of the commercial core and west of the waste land. This waste land is the result of poorly drained soils and is closely allied with the drainage pattern within the town.

Forming a broken ring about the residence areas lies the portion of the town which is less than 50 per cent built up. Sharing a position with and extending beyond it is the agricultural land.

Of all these distributions ordinary residence occupies the largest amount of territory. A measurement of areal extent and intensity of use shows the commercial core to be the most important of all nuclei.

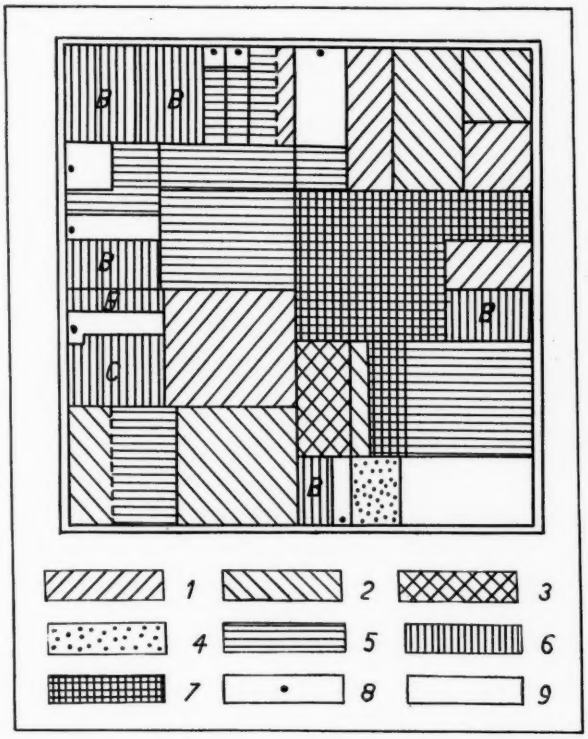

FIG. 6. Type study of Hillsdale's umland, No. 2
Key: Same as for No. 1 Type Study

HILLSDALE'S UMLAND

Since the importance of trade binds Hillsdale so closely to the surrounding area, the study of the urban unit would scarcely be complete without some mention of it. In order to delimit the area for description the primary trade area was found by means of the road turnings[7] (See Fig. 2). This does not represent the total area of actual Hillsdale's customers, but rather that within which trading is done almost wholly with that city. Surrounding it must be envisaged concentric rings of lessening trade importance.

The primary trade area is one of diversified surface and soils bearing roads of a monotonous right-angle pattern, with the houses oriented in relation to roads. Variations to the right-angle pattern

[7] For an explanation of this method see S. D. Dodge. Bureau and the Princeton Community. *Annals Assn. of Amer. Geogs.*, Vol. 22, 1932, pp. 174-182.

are due to the presence of water or poorly drained soils, making road surfacing difficult, or, in the case of improved roads, to diagonal cuts across the square mile. Landforms are largely the result of uneven glacial deposition producing a gently rolling surface. The soils are predominately loams and sandy loams with peat and some muck along the streams and about the lakes.[8] Farming is of a mixed type accompanied by some dairying and stock raising. The detail of land use can be seen from the type studies (See Figs. 5 and 6). At present, utilization for hay and pasture exceeds all others, and oats form the most important grain crop. The wood lots, with the exception of those in swamps, are located with reference not to soils, but to the distance from the farmstead.

CONCLUSION

Hillsdale may be characterized as a small town possessing four urban nuclei: communication, administration, production, and culture. Of these communication and administration are the most important. Their existence is due to the location of the town near the center of the county and to a site where the one natural line of travel could be augmented by another, in part natural, in part artificial. It is always dangerous to prognosticate the future, but it would seem that under the present social system, the destined development of the administrative and cultural nuclei is limited. Altho the height of development of production may not have been reached, it cannot, barring the introduction of an entirely new economic system, exceed the point where the wages of labor become more than those in other competing locations, since this constitutes the greater locational factor for Hillsdale. Tho improvements in roads and in merchandizing methods might lead to some improvement in trade, it must be remembered that present means of communication are fairly good and that improvement in merchandising methods may be copied. Thus future development along this line is also limited. In addition this probable condition of affairs seems borne out by an analysis of the population curve. Apparently Hillsdale is approaching the plateau of maturity with its cessation of growth.

[8] J. O. Veatch and Others. Soil Survey of Hillsdale County, Michigan. U. S. Dept. of Agric., Bur. Chem. and Soils, Ser. 1924, No. 10, Washington, 1928.

GEOGRAPHY CLUBS

DAISY F. JEWETT
Eastern Junior High School, Pontiac, Michigan

Some of the questions asked about geography are, "Why is Geography so uninteresting?", or "Why do we have so little geography in Junior High?"; yet again "Why isn't geography an elective?" To all of these questions people shrug their shoulders and say nothing.

We hear all of these questions and wonder about them but think how discouraging it is to try out new things, because of lack of interest and enthusiasm among people. For example, the question arose "Why not have a Geography Club?" Impossible! no one would join a club so uninteresting but let me tell you of my experience.

The seventh graders questioned me as to the amount of geography they were to have in Junior High and upon hearing the sad fact that the seventh grade would see the completion of geography, perhaps forever, they became very much concerned.

To begin with the boys and girls who were doing the questioning were very unusual. They were exceptionally good students with plenty of initiative. They began planning ways and means of getting more geography.

Clubs are a very important factor here in our schools and some of the girls wondered if we might have a geography club; some were already in other clubs and really wanted to remain in the clubs they had joined so that wasn't working out so well, but they were persistent and some of them came and asked me, very apologetically, if I could spare the time after school for a meeting once a week and to last for an hour. Was I thrilled? I was so delighted that I agreed at once while they still had the enthusiam to put it across.

And so nearly two years ago we began a Geography Club. People were skeptical about it and claimed the name would have to be sugar coated in order to induce students to enter. Not much sugar coating was required as we started immediately with fourteen, ten girls, and four boys. There were very few requirements: (1) Eighth and ninth graders only were eligible. (2) Only those interested in geography were to make application. (3) Many different nationalities were desired.

We were off in dead earnest. Our meetings were to be held on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30; that is immediately after school. We

chose our officers: guide; scribe; publicity; treasurer, and then decided to call ourselves "Globe Trotters."

As to our program: We have a short business meeting each time and then take up the regular work of the hour. It may be a work hour, a program, a talk or on very rare occasions a party.

So far we have made a very careful study of The British Commonwealth of Nations, and Africa, and we are now ready to begin the third unit, "The Fringe of Europe," beginning with the Scandinavian Countries. In addition to the regular work each member of the club chooses a project which is to be worked out during the year.

Two of the most interesting projects last year were the Swedish and the Italian. Let me tell you about them.

The Swedish Project was given by a Swedish girl. Several teachers had been invited to attend this particular meeting, and instead of a discussion or a talk my room had been transformed into a very attractive Swedish luncheon hall with many Swedish articles on display. June, our hostess, wore a very beautiful Swedish costume; the flax was grown in Sweden, hand spun, dyed and made by a Swedish lady before coming to this country. Our luncheon was opened with a prayer in Swedish by June and while being served she told us many interesting things about Sweden and her people. We were served Swedish food in true Swedish style by a Swedish lady just over here from Sweden.

Another very lovely project was an Italian Christmas luncheon given by Maria, who has come to us from Venice. She told us many interesting things that had happened while she lived in Italy and then served us Italian food in the Italian way.

Still another unusual hour was spent when Shirley and John told us about "Children of Many Lands." Their talk was unique in that Shirley would talk for awhile and then John would take it up and go on with it. It was really a conversation interspersed with dolls; paper dolls they had made of all the various countries.

This year we have increased our membership to twenty, with a waiting list, but feel that twenty is all we can have because of our varied activities and also the lack of books.

Another phase of our work has been our field trips, not so many but decidedly different each time; for example we spent an evening looking at stars at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; at another time we spent a forenoon at the Ferry

Seed Farm, Rochester, Michigan, and our last trip was thru the Parke Davis Co. laboratories, Detroit, Michigan.

These trips were all taken on Saturdays and thru the kindness of the Business Manager we had a school bus. Parents were always welcome on these trips and many have gone with us.

Some of the girls have made costumes representing their native lands and we have made seven foreign flags.

Our last venture was into the field of dramatics but never-the-less with geography as a background. Perhaps if I quote from an article in our newspaper you will see how our assembly worked in with our geography.

GEOGRAPHICAL CLUB CONDUCTS ASSEMBLY

Globe Trotters Celebrate International Month at Eastern Junior

The Globe Trotters, an organization of the Eastern Junior High School, celebrated International Month Friday with an assembly and international party at the school.

The gay pageant of friendship that was given portrayed the life of girls and boys in many foreign countries. The scene was a garden with a group of American girls gathering flowers and singing a Maying song. The Balloon Man greeted them with "Balloons for sale"! "Balloons for Sale," and altho the girls had no money he gave each one a Magic balloon telling them how to use them in order to visit with children from other countries. The girls began to wave their balloons and make their wishes, each on putting in the name of a different country, and in turn children dressed in the national costumes of their lands came gaily on the stage, sang, conversed, danced or played. Flags of the various nations were displayed.

The assembly closed with a Good Will Song followed by the Globe Trotters song.

The Globe Trotters celebrated the close of International Month with a party to which each Globe Trotter invited a guest of his or her nationality.

The Globe Trotters are sponsoring a matinee dance March 28th, and giving a noon show May 1. These two events are to give us a much needed financial support.

We have a yearbook this year that takes care of every meeting from September to June with two meetings for the summer. A committee of three Globe Trotters planned the yearbook and it was typed in the Commercial Department.

Thirteen of the twenty Globe Trotters are leaving for Senior High in June but are still desirous of being Globe Trotters so another year we are planning a Senior and a Junior group.

Is geography interesting? We think so. And must we close our geography books because the curriculum says no more geography after the seventh grade? Not at all.

And now let me close this rambling affair with our Globe Trotters song, written by one of our members to the tune of "Isle of Capri."

Globe Trotters travel all over the earth,
Forever hunting new places and nooks.
We try to prove what geography's worth
By traveling thru geography books.

We always aim for success by endeavor
We'll not give up until we are thru.
We'll keep on trying and gaining forever
Till we've proved what Globe Trotters can do.

A STORY FOR GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS

DAVID J. SWARTZ
Haaren High School, New York City

"JUST LESSONS" BY THE WOMAN WHO SEES

The Woman's niece is a substitute teacher—very new, very young and very eager to apply her training school theories—especially where a topic difficult of presentation is scheduled. Hours of preparation are devoted to its introduction, which should, in the young teacher's mind, be of so fascinating a character that a child's interest and attention will be guaranteed to continue right thru the lesson. The other day brought her an excellent opportunity to test her ability to "put over" a subject which because of its intangibility and remoteness of contact requires particular effort and dexterity on the part of the teacher. And the substitute had determined that it should be "put over" with enthusiasm if possible—with guile, if need be!

Latitude and longitude was the topic of the lesson, and was the substitute prepared! "Boys and girls," she began, "there was once a Spanish ship, hurrying home from the West Indies with its precious cargo of gold and silver and stones of great value. Suddenly a pirate ship attacked this Spanish galleon, but she was no match for the pirates and despite her brave captain and his loyal crew she sank and there she lies, to this day, at the bottom of the sea with all her gold and silver and stones." She was holding them—the substitute knew it in the rapt attention of the class. Now was the time to approach the heart of the lesson skillfully. She cast a bright smile upon her pupils. "Wouldn't it be fun," she asked, "if we could get up an expedition and go in search of the ship?" The class almost fell out of their seats. "But could we have the treasure?" "Would they let us keep it?" "Would it still be good?" "Is it possible to get the treasure out of the ship?" The questions were coming thick and fast.

And to each excited inquirer the substitute answered, "Yes." Then in an outburst of enthusiasm and almost with one voice came the question for which the young teacher was waiting. "But how could we find the place where the ship sank?" Pleased as Punch, the substitute went to the closet, sure now of the success of the lesson.

"We could do that easily—if we knew the latitude and longitude," she said, and she brought from the closet the large globe.

But before she could reach her desk Jimmie, who sat in the front row, had scented the plot. Up he jumped waving a hand in disgust at his tense classmates. "Gee, kids," he warned, "it's only geography!"

Lessons for the Teacher

This story appeared in the October 25, 1934 issue of the *New York Sun*. Aside from the element of human interest which pervades it, it is replete with morals, warnings, and lessons for the thinking teacher of geography. Just as she can very profitably spend a great part of a lesson by having the class intelligently study a picture, to learn about the activities of man and his natural surroundings, so she can make personal profit by studying this story.

Except for a little of beginning geography, most of the subject deals with matters which can best be learned by proper utilization of the imagination. For example, as in the story, the idea of latitude and longitude itself deals with an imaginary situation. We cannot have first-hand experiences with this idea for actually there is no such thing as latitude or longitude. On the other hand, children in our northern states may study cotton or the growth of citrus fruits. This they do mainly thru the utilization of imagination arising from thought gleaned from maps, text, and otherwise. But, there should be a more concrete basis than this, such as the use of pictures, slides, and moving pictures. In fact, we should go deeper into this idea of concreteness. Cotton and orange seeds should be planted in the school, and the results studied—the plant's appearance, growth, needs, the care expended in its culture, etc. Where the facilities are at hand, first-hand observation of cotton plants and orange trees should be made in hot houses. Summing up, then, we may say that teachers should always support the act of imagining with the concrete.

The lesson dealt with latitude and longitude, a rather dry topic in our subject, yet an important one and one that can be taught naturally only in geography. Note, tho, how even this dull subject can be made interesting to pupils. Since this is so, why cannot all topics in geography be made interesting? In this instance the teacher appealed to the imagination for motivation. To vary the appeal she could also appeal to the great field opened up by the words: needs, interests, instincts.

Why should the word, geography, immediately cause a contrary reaction in some individuals, like Jimmie? Why should the appearance of a chart, a map, or a globe, evident symbols of the geography

classroom, cause a spirit of disinterestedness? This is the great problem of the teacher of the subject and of interested supervisors and administrators in school systems. Our job is two-fold—we must break down the old idea of geography as a drill-a-fact subject and teach and propagandize the modern idea, that geography is a thought-provoking, practical, vital subject. In her preparation, the teacher should spend less time on method courses and more time on content courses. It is only when she has a rich background of content to use for interesting comparisons, vivid anecdote, and thought-producing reference, can the teacher of geography first begin to "sell" her students and the public this newer idea and ideal of geography.

ANNUAL MEETING NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS

The next annual meeting of the National Council will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, December 27-28, 1935, and a post-meeting field trip has been arranged for December 29. This year the Association for the Advancement of Science and the Association of American Geographers will hold their meetings in St. Louis during the following week. Hotel Chase will be headquarters and all meetings of the National Council will be held in the hotel.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Friday, December 27, 9:00 A.M.

Greetings

Walter E. McCourt, Head of the Department of Geology and Geography and Assistant Chancellor, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

Response

Erna Grassmuck, State Teachers College, Indiana, Pa.

The Purpose of Geography in St. Louis Schools

Henry J. Gerling, Superintendent of Schools, St. Louis (25 min.)

The Content of Beginners Geography for the Grades

Related Geographic Experiences with Primary Grades

Elizabeth Zachari, Louisville Normal, Ky. (20 min.)

The Importance of Primary Geography

Esther Zeller, Department of Industrial Relations, Columbus, Ohio (20 min.)

Geography for Beginners

Ina Robertson, State Teachers College, Valley City, N.D. (20 min.)

Discussion

W. R. McConnell, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

Friday, December 27, 2:00 P.M.

Geography in the Senior High School

The Place of Geography in the Senior High School
Edwin Foscue, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Tex. (20 min.)

Geography in the High School
James Chamberlain, Pasadena, Calif. (20 min.)

Human Geography for the Senior High School
J. R. Schwendeman, State Teachers College, Moorhead, Minn. (20 min.)

Political Geography for the Senior High School
N. A. Bengtson, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. (20 min.)

Field Work in Geography for the Senior High School
Wallace Atwood, Jr., Clark University, Worcester, Mass. (20 min.)

Discussion
Russell Packard, State Teachers College, Athens, W.Va.

Friday, December 27, 8:00 P.M.

Advertising Geography

An Investment in a Practical Science
V. C. McKim, State Teachers College, Chadron, Neb. (20 min.)

Does Geography Need a Press Agent
H. H. Addicott, State Teachers College, Mayville, N.D. (20 min.)

A Geographers Opportunity thru Membership in International Organizations of Business and Professional Men
Sam Bratton, University of Missouri, Columbia (20 min.)

Geographers and Problems of Today
Helen Strong, National Resources Committee, Washington, D.C. (20 min.)

Interesting Teachers and School Superintendents in Geography
Fred Branom, Chicago Normal College (20 min.)

Discussion
S. S. Visher, University of Indiana, Bloomington.

Saturday, December 28, 9:00 A.M.

Professionalized Subject Matter in Geography

Professionalized Treatment of Subject Matter in Geography
DeForrest Stull, Teachers College, New York City (25 min.)

Guiding Principles in the Professionalism of Subject Matter
J. R. Whitaker, University of Wisconsin, Madison (25 min.)

Vicious Circles in our Unplanned Educational Program
C. J. Bollinger, University of Oklahoma, Norman (25 min.)

The Geographic Fraternity
R. G. Buzzard, State Teachers College, Charleston, Ill. (25 min.)

Discussion
Edith Parker, University of Chicago

Saturday, December 28, 2:00 P.M.

Geography in World Relationships

Teaching Geographic Relationships in World Problems

O. W. Freeman, State Teachers College, Cheney, Wash. (25 min.)

Geographic Interdependence

J. E. Switzer, University of Indiana, Bloomington (25 min.)

The Passing of Provincialism

Roderick Peattie, Ohio State University, Columbus (25 min.)

Geography and World Politics

S. S. Van Valkenberg, Clark University, Worcester, Mass. (25 min.)

Discussion

Wallace Atwood, Sr., Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

Saturday, December 28, 6:00 P.M.

Annual Dinner

Presentation of the Distinguished Service Award

Address

Edwin H. Reeder, University of Vermont

Sunday, December 29, 9:30 A.M.

Field trip around St. Louis

L. F. Thomas, Washington University

INTEREST STIMULATING DEVICE

Dramatizing Geography

The love of dramatization that is so apparent in all children can be used to great advantage in motivating the study of geography. As a geography assignment I had each of my sixth and seventh grade students write a ten minute play on the country that we were studying. I gave the assignment at the beginning of a period and then read two geography plays to the class, explaining and showing them the elements of the mechanics of play writing and how to begin writing one. The remainder of that period was spent in a discussion of the various plots that could be used for the country we were studying.

The following day I used the geography period as a supervised study period. I went around to the different students and made suggestions and answered questions about play writing.

The next geography period I collected the plays and read them orally in class. As each play was read we discussed its good and bad points, and especially whether the geography facts in the play were true or not. Then we made suggestions on how to improve each one and then handed them back for rewriting in ink, after revising them as had been suggested in class.

The following day I read the plays over to the class and had them choose the two that they liked the best. Those two plays we dramatized. The children made their own costumes and scenery. The plays were given before other classes and for the Parent Teachers.

The whole assignment took six geography periods. The children were so enthused over the project that they wanted to write another play immediately. Their interest and pleasure in geography increased a great deal, and a test given them after the plays were given showed that the geographical facts that they had absorbed from writing the plays were just as many as if they had spent those six periods in regular schoolwork.

BRUCE K. MOORE

Ely Grade School
Ely, Nevada

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

DR. C. E. COOPER, President of the National Council and Head of the Department of Geography and Geology at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, addressed the Central Ohio State Teachers Association at Dayton, Ohio, on October 25 and during the week November 3-9 gave a series of addresses at the Valley City State Teachers College, N.D., the Mayville State Teachers College, N.D., the Moorhead State Teachers College, Minn., and the North Dakota State Teachers Association at Bismarck.

Those wishing late news on recent developments in various parts of the world will find help in the Geographic News Bulletins published weekly by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C. The cost is nominal. The Bulletin's information deals with changed boundaries and place names, explorations, economic developments, and interprets world news in general. Each of the thirty Bulletins consists of five-page illustrated bulletins.

Representatives of many nations attended the two sessions of the geography section of the World Federation of Education Associations, held last summer at Oxford, England. In the absence of the president, J. Russell Smith of Columbia, the vice-chairman, Ada Emily Phillips of the Avery Hill Training College, London, presided. The general topic was Geographic Education for the New Age. Elizabeth D. Zachari, Louisville Normal College, discussed "Cumulative Learnings in Geographic Education." While "Urban Growth and the Movement of Population in the United States" was presented by Dr. Van Cleef of Ohio State University. "An International Bibliography of Geographic Teaching Materials" was introduced by Erna Grassmuch of Indiana State Teachers College, Pennsylvania, and "The Use of the Home Region in Teaching Geography" was developed by Dr. Mary Sanders, Furzedown Training College, London. Japan has invited the Federation to meet in that country in 1937.

Seeds from drought-resistant forage plants from the desert sands of Turkestan, from Mongolia and the edge of the Gobi Desert are being introduced into the United States by plant hunters from the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is hoped that these plants after the necessary adaptation, will resist drought and help control the wind erosion brought on by the unwise cropping of our Great Plains.

DR. AND MRS. BEN F. LEMERT continued their field studies in Mexico during the past summer. Several days were spent on a large hacienda west of Saltillo where agricultural economy combined irrigation, dairying, and grazing on dry lands.

THOMAS F. BARTON has accepted appointment to the staff of State Normal University, Carbondale, Illinois. During recent years he was in the State Teachers College, Kearney, Nebraska.

P. E. CHURCH, formerly of the Evanston Illinois High School, and instructor in Northwestern University during the past summer, takes up this new work as instructor in Washington State University, beginning this fall semester.

One of the outstanding mountain automobile roads to be opened this season is the one that cuts across Mt. Grosz Glockner, the highest peak in the Eastern Alps. This new highway traverses a wilderness of glaciers and snowfields, and affords a short cut from Italy to the Danubian sections of Austria and Bavaria.

For several years the Department of Geology and Geography, Northwestern University, has had an exchange lecture plan, which, it seems, could profitably be much more widely adopted. The expenses under the plan are merely nominal, as the lecturers give their services gratis. There have been two exchanges with the University of Cincinnati, one with Washington University, St. Louis, and this year with George Peabody College, Nashville. In this year's exchange, Professor W. H. Haas gave a series of four lectures on "The Geography of the Tropics" at Nashville, April 11 and 12, and Professor A. E. Parkins filled the return engagement at Evanston, April 25 and 26, speaking on "The Geography of the South."

At the close of the initial program participated in by west coast geographers in connection with the Pacific Division meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held at the University of California at Los Angeles in June, the formal organization of an Association of Pacific Coast Geographers was completed. Dr. Otis W. Freeman, Washington State Normal School, Cheney, who, to a large extent inspired the formation of the organization, was elected charter president. George C. Kimber, Sacramento Junior College, vice-president, and Willis B. Merriam, University of Washington, secretary-treasurer, represent the other officers chosen. The 1936 meeting will be held in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Pacific Division in Seattle under the auspices of the University of Washington.

Last summer the writer visited a section of the Federal Shelter Belt Project located just east of Mitchell, S.D. The Shelter Belt is not a continuous belt of trees extending from the Canadian Border to the Gulf, and probably never will be. Instead, rows of trees are being, or have been, planted in strips about a hundred feet wide in an east and west direction extending the full length of a given farm. The land selected for the planting must have an average annual precipitation of at least eighteen inches, and the soil and drainage must meet certain specifications. The owner leases the land to the government for a period of five years, and gets as rent from about two to four dollars an acre, prorated as to value. In addition, the owner or tenant agrees to cultivate the rows for this period of time and gets paid for his labor which may amount to a hundred or more dollars a year. The seedlings are furnished by a state nursery. At the end of the five year period, the government may have an option to extend the lease. The strips visited had three rows of cottonwoods in the center followed on each side by a row or two of each of these: Chinese and American elms, ash, cedar or pine, and ending on the outside with a row of locust, lilac, Chinese elm, or Siberian pea. If the trees survive, this type of planting will result in a shrub or hedge-like border with the tallest and quickest growing trees in the center. Each strip is enclosed by a hog-tight fence. If any row dies, it will be replaced. The Federal Government aided by the states hopes each individual strip will enhance the value of the land on which it is planted by helping check erosion, affording a refuge for game, enhancing the beauty of the countryside, and affording shelter for stock as well as a bit of wood for general farm use, and hopes that other farmers may wish to plant similar shelter groves near their farm buildings. The leasing of the land to the government is optional, no pressure being used to secure the lease.

How much the U. S. Weather Bureau Service means to California fruit growers is gleaned from the fact that a frost warning may bring two million heaters into operation in the citrus belts.

Baghdad, Allahabad, Singapore, Darwin, and Charleville were the way-stations at which stops were compulsory in the straight air speed race of 11,000 miles from London to Melbourne. Stops at intermediate points were all specified for the handicap race for smaller planes. A gold cup trophy and a share of the $75,000 purse awarded the winners.

GEOGRAPHICAL PUBLICATIONS

Raoul Blanchard and Raymond E. Crist. **A Geography of Europe.** 490 pp. Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1935.

More is known of the geography of Europe than of any other continent, but most of that knowledge is recorded in various foreign languages of which few American geographers can command more than one or two. And since the direct field knowledge of any of us is limited to at most a year or so, it would be the task of a lifetime for any American geographer to prepare a text on Europe comparable with those in common use in France and Germany, if indeed it were possible at all. Consequently American geographers will welcome Mr. Crist.'s translation of the work of a leading French geographer, Professor Blanchard of Grenoble and Harvard, as the outstanding text in this field now available for use by American school teachers.

Beyond that, this work is recommended to those who are still puzzled by the theoretical arguments over the nature of geography, in particular the meaning of regional geography. Let them compare this text with other recent texts on Europe (excepting for the little outline volume by Herbertson's students, McMunn and Coster). Tho the chapter headings are, as usual, by countries, it will be found that in place of a detailed discussion of the agriculture and industries of the country as a whole, with a brief outline of the "natural divisions" or "regions," the major part of the text is devoted to an interpretive description of the geography—physical, agricultural, manufactural, cultural, etc., of each of the regions. The word "relationships," it might be noted, is not to be found in the book, full tho it is of innumerable instances that could be so labelled if one desired.

In one major respect the work is surprisingly deficient—there are but twenty-seven maps, almost none depicting the regions that are discussed. Nor are the maps well selected. One-fourth, seven, are for France alone (altho the text is remarkably free of national bias), five more are for the Low Countries, whereas there are but two for Great Britain, and one each for Germany, Italy, and Russia. In comparison, a leading German work, Hettner's "Europa," has 197 maps, much more widely distributed; recent American texts likewise have large numbers of excellent maps, not available in school atlases. The large number of unusually well-selected photographs, 188 in all, does not make up for this defect.

A lesser criticism is the frequent use of generic terms for products, such as "cereals," without specifying which ones, "metallurgical industries," etc.

Nevertheless the advantage of a genuinely regional treatment makes this text of first value for all teachers of the geography of Europe. It is to be hoped that other publishers will follow this example and stimulate the translation of other works on Europe by French and German geographers.

RICHARD HARTSHORNE

University of Minnesota

Clarence F. Jones. **Economic Geography.** 448 pp., 334 Ill. Henry Holt & Co., New York. 1935

Another excellent text has been added to the growing list of books on economic geography for high schools. This book is divided into seven parts, the titles of which indicate the scope of subject matter covered: (1) the meaning of economic geography, (2) fisheries of the world, (3) the grazing industries, (4) the place of farming in human activities, (5) the forest industries, (6) mining industries, and (7) manufacturing and trade. The book is profusely illustrated, abundant use being made of dot maps to show production and distribution. Large world maps occupy the upper half of two adjoining pages, making unnecessary the usual 90° twist required to read such a map printed on

one page. Another noticeable feature is the "two column" method employed in printing each page, presumably designed to provide easier and faster reading for the high school student. An advantage is that many small illustrations, one column wide, may be used.

The seven parts of the book are by no means uniform in length. Part 2 on fisheries occupies about 20 pages while Part 4 on farming occupies about 120 pages. Each part is divided into several chapters at the end of which are found (1) exercises or questions, (2) readings and (3) topics for investigation. A tremendous amount of work has been done in preparing page references to selected readings. In the back of the book is a list of over 100 references, each one numbered. At the end of a chapter certain references are referred to by number and the exact pages cited. The author suggests that considerable use should be made of the readings where the course is taught for a full year. It is well to remember, however, that most high school libraries are meager affairs, that few high school students are adapted to extensive reading and that during the school day they have little time for library work. They prefer to *do* things—to be given some classroom *activity* to perform which involves learning.

This text is written in an interesting style. As stated in the preface, "a varied approach to different units commands the pupil's interest. Many units are introduced by concrete examples rather than by statements of general principles." Many questions appear in the body of the text. The reviewer seriously doubts the value of such questions. The average high school student, if he reads his lesson at all, reads it in a hurry and when he comes to such a question simply skips over it. Special mention should be made of Part 6, mining, and Part 7, manufacturing and trade. These are excellent. One is somewhat surprised to find in Part 2 on page 21 the caption "grazing" immediately below which is a picture of cod fish drying on racks in the Lofoten Islands of Norway. These criticisms are of minor importance. The book has much to recommend it.

M. H. SHEARER

Westport High School
Kansas City, Missouri

W. A. Mackintosh. **Economic Problems of the Prairie Provinces.** 308 pp., 81 tables, 39 maps and diagrams, 3 statistical appendices. The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Ltd., 1935. $4.60

The nine volumes published under the general title of "Canadian Frontiers of Settlement" constitute a work of high geographic value. The distinguished editor, Mr. Mackintosh, has personally undertaken the preparation of two of the volumes, namely, Volume I, "Prairie Settlement: The Geographical Setting" as introductory to the series, and the Volume (IV) now under review. The former was distinctly geographical, and the latter is as definitely economic. The clarity with which the discussions are presented is highly commendable and should impress geographers and economists alike with the intimate relationships and also with the distinctiveness of their respective fields.

The main thesis of this volume, forcibly stated in the preface, is "that the characteristic and, therefore, fundamental problems are those which result from the conjuncture of a highly variable regional income and heavy overhead charges." The treatment is of course directly applied to the Prairie Provinces of Canada, but nevertheless develops generalizations applicable to pioneer settlements everywhere. The importance of the geographic setting, fully developed in Volume I is again recognized, but the main emphasis in this volume is placed on the economic factors. Among the chapter headings the following may be considered to be representative of the field covered: Economic Trends, Economic Fluctuations, Acquiring a Transportation System, Problems of Marketing, Provincial Finances, Weight of Rural Taxation, and Farm Credit.

The significance of wheat in the economic set-up of the Prairie Provinces is dis-

cussed in its relation to political as well as economic problems. Price fluctuations, variations in yield and grade, and variability of farmers' income are brought out in full detail. The conditions which have led to co-operative marketing and the formation of the wheat pools have been carefully studied and the elements of failure as well as of success have been judiciously evaluated. The author expresses the opinion that in spite of recent setbacks, co-operative marketing is likely to play a larger rather than a smaller part in the future.

The book is one that deserves to be read by geographers, particularly by those whose interests are largely in economic geography, not only because of its authentic discussion of the plains region of Canada, but also because the reasoning there applied will aid in interpreting similar conditions elsewhere. Those interested in land utilization problems in the Great Plains of the United States will find this volume highly instructive.

NELS A. BENGTSON

University of Nebraska

Leonard O. Packard and Charles P. Sinnott. **Nations as Neighbors.** (Second revised edition). 673 pp., 425 figs., appendix and index. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1935.

In this junior high school text the authors propose to promote a thinking citizenry and to help in the development of higher national ideals thru understandings of the dependence of the United States upon other nations and of the interdependence of all peoples. They also aim to teach lessons concerning the conservation of natural resources.

After the two introductory chapters in Part I on "How Nations Depend Upon One Another" and "How Natural Conditions Influence Man's Life" the text is organized by countries. Part II deals with the United States (about 200 pages), Part III with European countries and their colonies (200 pages), Part IV principally with Japan and China in Asia (43 pages), Part V with Africa as a continent of many colonies (33 pages), Part VI chiefly with Brazil, Argentina, and Chile among the Latin American countries (67 pages), and Part VII touches upon the polar regions as areas of exploration (6 pages).

Altho the statement is made in the preface that many small or relatively unimportant countries had to be omitted in order to treat with considerable fullness the leading nations of the world, in the attempt to cover the whole world the presentation tends to be encyclopedic in nature. It lacks the interest and reality which the details concerning type areas would have supplied. In a few cases the authors seem to assume adequate background for understanding trade relations from the earlier study of political regions; in most cases, however, the material presented is of the very simplest kind.

Thruout the text statements are made which reflect a deterministic or control philosophy of the science of geography. For example, "Great fields of corn are grown in this part of the country because it requires the long, hot summers of this region" or "the fine harbors and excellent fishing grounds along the coast have given the country its great fishing industry and have made Norway a nation of fishermen and sailors." Nevertheless, in several instances the important part man has played in the development of the resources of a region is mentioned. The statement, "Nothing can be more important to a country than the character of its people," illustrates this point.

The text is well supplied with illustrations. The pictures are mostly of high quality used largely for definition purposes. This is not always carefully done. For example, in speaking of the iron ore obtained from the iron mines in the Superior Upland, the reader is referred to Fig. 31 where he finds a picture of the ore docks and smelting plant at Gary, Indiana. The principal maps of the continents (except of Africa) and of the United States are double page physical-political maps with appropriate symbols representing

cities of different sizes. The color scheme for elevation is not the generally accepted one and it is somewhat difficult to differentiate the many heights shown. There is no legend to indicate ownership accompanying the political map of Africa.

Altho there is no guidance provided in the way of motivation or introduction in the use of the text material, there are some good thought-provoking summary questions and problems at the conclusion of each chapter.

To a certain extent thru the discussions on the trade of the countries presented the authors have fulfilled their main purpose in this text. They also show the need of wise use of forests, minerals, and other natural resources. However, as a text for junior high school use where a good course in elementary geography has preceded, it would hardly seem justifiable to recommend a book in which the content is organized as this one is.

Mechanical features of the book are especially commendable: (1) the print is excellent, (2) the pictures are exceptionally well reproduced, (3) the style of writing is simple and easily understood, and (4) the size and shape of the book are attractive to junior high school pupils.

EDNA E. EISEN

Steuben Junior High School
Milwaukee, Wisconsin